

HABS No. AZ-145-F

Phoenix Indian School, Hospital (Student Center)
Northeast Corner of Central Avenue and Indian School Rd.
Phoenix
Maricopa County
Arizona

HABS
ARIZ
7-PHEN,
17F-

PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

**Historic American Buildings Survey
National Park Service
Western Region
Department of the Interior
San Francisco, California 94107**

HABS
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HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

PHOENIX INDIAN SCHOOL, HOSPITAL (Student Center) HABS NO.: AZ-145-F

Location: Northeast Corner of Central Avenue and Indian School Road
Phoenix
Maricopa County
Arizona

USGS Phoenix 1952/Sunnyslope 1965 Quadrangles
War Memorial UTM Coordinates: 12. 400710. 3706720

Present Owner: U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service,
P.O. Box 37127, Washington, D.C. 20013-7127

Present Occupant: Unoccupied.

Present Use: None.

Statement of Significance: The original appearance of the Hospital made it an effective complement to the earlier major structures - the Dining Hall and Memorial Hall - by continuing the theme of Mission Revival style already established on the site. Later alterations to the building, inside and outside, reduced its integrity to a low level.

PART I. HISTORICAL INFORMATION

A. Physical History.

1. Date of Erection: 1930.
2. Architect/Builder: Architect not known; builder not known.
3. Original and Subsequent Owners: U.S. Department of the Interior.
4. Alterations and Additions: Extensive remodelling in 1973 included the addition of projecting hoods around some of the windows; addition of wood pergolas on the east side and stair and ramp approaches, flanked by slump block walls, at the entrances; and essentially total gutting and reconstruction of the interior. After those major intrusions, and apart from the original massing and silhouette, no signs of the original function of the building remained and its historic integrity was reduced to a very low level.

B. Historical Context.

The Hospital was constructed in 1930 as a sixty-bed general medical facility, to serve both students of the School and Native Americans resident locally. It served that function into the 1950s, operated by the U.S.P.H.S. It was entered from the east from a short loop road, Redwing Place, that opened in turn from the main east-west road on the site, Midway. On the east side of Redwing Place were three small buildings identified as cottages (the southernmost of those was the Doctor's House), and on the north side of Midway were three more cottages and the Nurses' Home; all these were residences for hospital staff, and together with the Hospital constituted the medical group on the site. [The Nurses' Home had been the original hospital on the site]. The Hospital and the northernmost cottage on Redwing Place were the only surviving structures of the group in 1990.

PART II. ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION.

A. General Statement.

The Hospital was a single story complex, 140' east-west x 206' north-south overall, formed of a larger central block, a rectangle running north-south, crossed by three smaller rectangular blocks running east-west, forming a double E in plan; the central east-west block, 140' x 46', was extended to the west by the addition of a smaller pavillion, 36' wide, connected to the central block by a narrow link; the east-west blocks to north and south of the central block were each 140' x 36'. Each block had a double-loaded central corridor; those to the north and south were patient wards, while the central block housed administrative, clinic and laboratory functions.

1. Architectural Character: The Hospital was generally in the style known as Mission Revival; each rectangular block terminated at either end in a typical flat wall rising above the roof line in a curvilinear gable -- there were ten such gables in all -- and the exterior surfaces were smooth stucco.

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Aside from such stylistic details however the Hospital was in reality a very simple utilitarian structure, as much akin to vernacular buildings of the Territorial period as to any historical models.

2. Condition of Fabric: Good, although mostly not original.

B. Description.

Exterior.

Originally, the exterior surfaces of the building were entirely smooth, relieved only by a pattern of tall narrow windows in pairs, double hung, 2 over 2. There were no other exterior details, the visual quality of the architecture being conveyed essentially by the massing. The central east-west block, which contained the main entrance, had the highest ridge line, followed at a slightly lower level by the ridge of the north-south block, with the northern and southern east-west blocks having the lowest ridges. The roof of each block overhung the walls some 3 feet, with the rafters revealed.

Interior.

Originally, the interior of each block consisted of a wide central corridor flanked on either side by matching rows of rooms. The original disposition was preserved in part through the last alterations, although the removal of interior partitions, replacement of windows, floor and ceiling finishes, lighting fixtures, and so on, contributed to the disappearance of most of the original character of the interior. The alterations of 1973 were designed in the Facilities Management Section, Phoenix Area Office, Bureau of Indian Affairs.

Construction.

The Hospital was a masonry structure, with walls of concrete block, stuccoed externally, timber floors and timber-framed roof, covered with asphalt shingles. The roof was vented, in the absence of mechanical cooling, by small monitors near the ridge line of each block.

Sources.

See Source List in Phoenix Indian School Report, HABS NO.: AZ-145. Drawings located: no drawings were located for the original building; 1973 (for the alterations).

Project Information.

This project was undertaken according to the terms of Subagreement No. 2 to Cooperative Agreement No. CA-8000-9-8005 between United States Department of the Interior, National Park Service and the Arizona Board of Regents for and on behalf of Arizona State University. This project was carried out prior to transfer of the property from Federal ownership, and the property was documented as part of the 1988 Memorandum of Agreement among the Department of the Interior, Arizona SHPO, and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation.

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Date: 31 December 1993.

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HOSPITAL, Sketch Floor Plan

